

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

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R 110657Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6145

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMCONSUL MELBOURNE

AMCONSUL SYDNEY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CANBERRA 4556

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR, UNSC, UNGA, KS

SUBJ: KOREA AT 30TH UNGA

REF: STATE 158345

1. IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARA 4 OF REFTTEL, EMBASSY HAS TENTATIVELY EXPLORED SITUATION AFFECTING POSSIBLE AUSTRALIAN CO-SPONSORSHIP OF FRIENDLY RESOLUTION ON KOREA WITH BRITISH HIGH COMMISSION, JAPANESE EMBASSY, AND ROK EMBASSY. NEITHER BRITISH NOR JAPANESE HAVE HAD ANY INSTRUCTIONS ON SUBJECT TO DATE, THOUGH BOTH ARE AWARE OF CONTINUING DEVELOPMENTS REGARDING FRIENDLY RESOLUTION ON KOREA. WE QUESTION UTILITY, AT THIS STAGE, OF TAKING FURTHER SOUNDINGS WITH NEW ZEALAND, CANADIAN, AND DUTCH MISSIONS ON ISSUE, AS IT IS DOUBTFUL THEY HAVE INSTRUCTIONS EITHER.

2. BRITISH AND JAPANESE FELT THERE IS CONSIDERABLE POSSIBILITY THAT AUSTRALIA WILL VOTE FOR FRIENDLY RESOLUTION BUT FEEL IT IS HIGHLY UNLIKELY AUSTRALIANS WILL CO-SPONSOR RESOLUTION. BOTH
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BRITISH AND JAPANESE PLAN TO EXPLORE MATTER WITH AUSTRALIANS IN

NEAR FUTURE. ROK EMBASSY IN CANBERRA HAS EXPLORED CO-SPONSORSHIP ISSUE WITH DEPT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND HAS BEEN TOLD MERELY THAT MATTER WITH DFA AS WELL ON JULY 8 AND WERE TOLD THAT MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS WILLESEE HAD RECENTLY EXPRESSED INTEREST IN TEXTS OF RESOLUTIONS PRESENTLY BEING CIRCULATED AT UN BUT HAS MADE NO DECISION ON CO-SPONSORSHIP. SENIOR DFA OFFICER HAS GIVEN US HIS PERSONAL OPINION THAT AUSTRALIA LIKELY TO VOTE FOR RESOLUTION AGREEING TO DISSOLUTION OF UNC ON CONDITION OF PRC AND DPRK REITERATION OF SUPPORT FOR 1953 ARMISTICE.

3. COMMENT: ON BASIS OF PAST EXPERIENCE AND FACT THAT GOA NOW HAS EMBASSIES IN BOTH SEOUL AND PYONGYANG, WE BELIEVE IT HIGHLY UNLIKELY THAT AUSTRALIANS WILL AGREE TO CO-SPONSOR FRIENDLY RESOLUTION. SUCH ACTION WOULD BE VIRTUALLY CERTAIN TO INCUR DPRK ENMITY AND BRING FEW BENEFITS IN RETURN TO AUSTRALIA. WE BELIEVE, HOWEVER, THAT AUSTRALIAN WILLINGNESS TO VOTE FOR FRIENDLY RESOLUTION MAY BE WORTH MORE THAN CO-SPONSORSHIP OF NUMEROUS OTHER COUNTRIES. WE BELIEVE AUSTRALIANS WILL BE WILLING TO TELL WAVERING COUNTRIES, AS THEY HAVE DONE IN PAST, THAT THEY WILL VOTE FOR FRIENDLY RESOLUTION, AND THIS MAY HAVE HIGHLY BENEFICIAL EFFECT. TO THIS END, EMBASSY RECOMMENDS USUN KEEP AUSTRALIAN UN MISSION CLOSELY CUT IN ON ALL MOVES ON KOREAN ISSUE.
GREEN

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